

**Michelle Lujan Grisham**  
Governor

**Howie C. Morales**  
Lt. Governor

**NEW MEXICO  
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**

Harold Runnels Building  
1190 Saint Francis Drive, PO Box 5469  
Santa Fe, NM 87502-5469  
Telephone (505) 827-2855  
[www.env.nm.gov](http://www.env.nm.gov)



**James C. Kenney**  
Cabinet Secretary

**Jennifer J. Pruett**  
Deputy Secretary

Certified Mail-Return Receipt Requested

June 21, 2019

Mr. Robert Towle, Operations Foreman  
New Mexico Water Service Company  
401 Horner Street  
Belen, New Mexico 87002

**RE: New Mexico Water Service Company; Rio Communities Wastewater Treatment Facility; Minor Facility; NPDES Permit No. NM0027782; NPDES Compliance Evaluation Inspection; June 4, 2019**

Dear Mr. Towle:

Enclosed please find a copy of the report and check list for the referenced inspection that the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) conducted at your facility on behalf of the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). This inspection report will be sent to the USEPA in Dallas for their review. These inspections are used by USEPA to determine compliance with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting program in accordance with the requirements of the federal Clean Water Act.

Further explanations are provided with the check list and discuss issues that should be addressed. The introduction and treatment scheme are also included with this inspection report.

You are encouraged to review the inspection report, required to correct any issues noted during the inspection, and advised to modify your operation and/or administrative procedures as appropriate. If you have comments on or concerns with the basis for the findings in the NMED inspection report, please contact us (see address below) in writing within 30 days from the date of this letter. Further, you are encouraged to notify in writing USEPA and NMED regarding modifications and compliance schedules at the address below:

David Long, NPDES Enforcement Coordinator  
Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6  
NPDES Enforcement Branch (6EN-WM)  
1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200  
Dallas, Texas 75202-2733

Sarah Holcomb, Program Manager  
New Mexico Environment Dept.  
Surface Water Quality Bureau  
Point Source Regulation Section  
PO Box 5469  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502

NM Water Service Company/Rio Del Oro

June 17, 2019

Page -2-

David Long ([Long.David@epa.gov](mailto:Long.David@epa.gov)) is USEPA Region 6's NPDES Enforcement Coordinator at the above address. If you have any questions about this inspection report, please contact Sandra Gabaldon at 505-827-1041 or [Sandra.gabaldon@state.nm.us](mailto:Sandra.gabaldon@state.nm.us)

Sincerely,

Sarah Holcomb, Program Manager  
Point Source Regulation Section  
Surface Water Quality Bureau

Cc: Carol Peters-Wagnon, USEPA (6EN-WM) via email  
David Long, USEPA (6EN-WM) via email  
Nancy Williams, USEPA (6EN-WC) via email  
Amy Andrews, USEPA (6EN-WM) via email  
David Esparza, USEPA (6EN-WM) via email  
Brent Larson, USEPA (6WQ-PP) via email  
John Rhoderick, Manager, District I via email



Form Approved  
OMB No. 2040-0003  
Approval Expires 7-31-85

## NPDES Compliance Inspection Report

### Section A: National Data System Coding

Transaction Code	NPDES	yr/mo/day	Inspec. Type	Inspector	Fac Type
1 <input type="text" value="N"/> 2 <input type="text" value="5"/> 3 <input type="text" value="N"/> <input type="text" value="M"/> <input type="text" value="0"/> <input type="text" value="0"/> <input type="text" value="2"/> <input type="text" value="7"/> <input type="text" value="7"/> <input type="text" value="8"/> <input type="text" value="2"/>	<input type="text" value="1"/> <input type="text" value="9"/> <input type="text" value="0"/> <input type="text" value="6"/> <input type="text" value="0"/> <input type="text" value="4"/>	18 <input type="text" value="C"/>	19 <input type="text" value="S"/>	20 <input type="text" value="1"/>	
<input type="text" value="M"/> <input type="text" value="I"/> <input type="text" value="N"/> <input type="text" value="O"/> <input type="text" value="R"/> <input type="text" value="W"/> <input type="text" value="W"/> <input type="text" value="T"/> <input type="text" value="P"/>					
Inspection Work Days	Facility Evaluation Rating	BI	QA	Reserved	
67 <input type="text" value="1"/> 69	70 <input type="text" value="3"/>	71 <input type="text" value="N"/>	72 <input type="text" value="N"/>	73 <input type="text" value=""/>	74 <input type="text" value=""/>
				75 <input type="text" value=""/>	80 <input type="text" value=""/>

### Section B: Facility Data

Name and Location of Facility Inspected (For industrial users discharging to POTW, also include POTW name and NPDES permit number) In Belen, go east on NM309 (Renken Ave.) right on NM 7 for ¼ mile, right on NM 304 for 1 mile to Vista Grande Estates and turn right into subdivision on Chisam Road. Facility is at the end of Chisam Road on the left side VALENCIA COUNTY	Entry Time /Date 1140 Hours / June 4, 2019	Permit Effective Date June 1, 2014
Name(s) of On-Site Representative(s)/Title(s)/Phone and Fax Number(s) Byron Peters, Level IV Certified Operator	Exit Time/Date 1300 Hours / June 4, 2019	Permit Expiration Date May 31, 2019
Name, Address of Responsible Official/Title/Phone and Fax Number Mr. Paul Risso, General Manager Mr. Bobby Towle, Operations Foreman 401 Horner Street Belen, New Mexico 87002	Contacted Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other Facility Data SIC 4952 N 34.63396 W -106.74036

### Section C: Areas Evaluated During Inspection (S = Satisfactory, M = Marginal, U = Unsatisfactory, N = Not Evaluated)

<input type="text" value="S"/> Permit	<input type="text" value="S"/> Flow Measurement	<input type="text" value="M"/> Operations & Maintenance	<input type="text" value="N"/> CSO/SSO
<input type="text" value="S"/> Records/Reports	<input type="text" value="S"/> Self-Monitoring Program	<input type="text" value="S"/> Sludge Handling/Disposal	<input type="text" value="N"/> Pollution Prevention
<input type="text" value="S"/> Facility Site Review	<input type="text" value="N"/> Compliance Schedules	<input type="text" value="N"/> Pretreatment	<input type="text" value="N"/> Multimedia
<input type="text" value="S"/> Effluent/Receiving Waters	<input type="text" value="S"/> Laboratory	<input type="text" value="N"/> Storm Water	<input type="text" value="N"/> Other:

### Section D: Summary of Findings/Comments (Attach additional sheets if necessary)

NPDES PERMIT NM0027782 has expired, but administratively continued. EPA is currently working on the permit renewal for this facility.

Please see checklist and further explanations for details of findings

Name(s) and Signature(s) of Inspector(s) Sandra Gabaldon	Agency/Office/Telephone/Fax NMED/SWQB/(505) 827-1041/(505) 827-0160	Date June 21, 2019
Signature of Management QA Reviewer Sarah Holcomb, Program Manager	Agency/Office/Phone and Fax Numbers NMED/SWQB/(505) 827-2897/(505) 827-0160	Date June 21, 2019

New Mexico Water Service Company – Rio Communities		PERMIT NO. NM0027782	
SECTION A – PERMIT VERIFICATION			
PERMIT SATISFACTORILY ADDRESSES OBSERVATIONS		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> NA (FURTHER EXPLANATION ATTACHED <u>NO</u> )	
DETAILS:			
1. CORRECT NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF PERMITTEE		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
2. NOTIFICATION GIVEN TO EPA/STATE OF NEW DIFFERENT OR INCREASED DISCHARGES		<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA	
3. NUMBER AND LOCATION OF DISCHARGE POINTS AS DESCRIBED IN PERMIT		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
4. ALL DISCHARGES ARE PERMITTED		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
SECTION B – RECORDKEEPING AND REPORTING EVALUATION			
RECORDS AND REPORTS MAINTAINED AS REQUIRED BY PERMIT.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> NA (FURTHER EXPLANATION ATTACHED <u>NO</u> )	
DETAILS:			
1. ANALYTICAL RESULTS CONSISTENT WITH DATA REPORTED ON DMRs.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
2. SAMPLING AND ANALYSES DATA ADEQUATE AND INCLUDE.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
a) DATES, TIME(S) AND LOCATION(S) OF SAMPLING		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
b) NAME OF INDIVIDUAL PERFORMING SAMPLING		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
c) ANALYTICAL METHODS AND TECHNIQUES.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
d) RESULTS OF ANALYSES AND CALIBRATIONS.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
e) DATES AND TIMES OF ANALYSES.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
f) NAME OF PERSON(S) PERFORMING ANALYSES.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
3. LABORATORY EQUIPMENT CALIBRATION AND MAINTENANCE RECORDS ADEQUATE.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
4. PLANT RECORDS INCLUDE SCHEDULES, DATES OF EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
5. EFFLUENT LOADINGS CALCULATED USING DAILY EFFLUENT FLOW AND DAILY ANALYTICAL DATA.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
SECTION C – OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE			
TREATMENT FACILITY PROPERLY OPERATED AND MAINTAINED.		<input type="checkbox"/> S <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> NA (FURTHER EXPLANATION ATTACHED <u>YES</u> )	
DETAILS:			
1. TREATMENT UNITS PROPERLY OPERATED.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
2. TREATMENT UNITS PROPERLY MAINTAINED.		<input type="checkbox"/> S <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
3. STANDBY POWER OR OTHER EQUIVALENT PROVIDED .		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
4. ADEQUATE ALARM SYSTEM FOR POWER OR EQUIPMENT FAILURES AVAILABLE.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
5. ALL NEEDED TREATMENT UNITS IN SERVICE		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
6. ADEQUATE NUMBER OF QUALIFIED OPERATORS PROVIDED.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
7. SPARE PARTS AND SUPPLIES INVENTORY MAINTAINED.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
8. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE MANUAL AVAILABLE.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES AND SCHEDULES ESTABLISHED.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
PROCEDURES FOR EMERGENCY TREATMENT CONTROL ESTABLISHED.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA	

New Mexico Water Service Company – Rio Communities		PERMIT NO. NM0027782	
SECTION C – OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE (CONT'D)			
9. HAVE BYPASSES/OVERFLOWS OCCURRED AT THE PLANT OR IN THE COLLECTION SYSTEM IN THE LAST YEAR?		<input type="checkbox"/> Y	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA
IF SO, HAS THE REGULATORY AGENCY BEEN NOTIFIED?		<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA
HAS CORRECTIVE ACTION BEEN TAKEN TO PREVENT ADDITIONAL BYPASSES/OVERFLOWS?		<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA
10. HAVE ANY HYDRAULIC OVERLOADS OCCURRED AT THE TREATMENT PLANT?		<input type="checkbox"/> Y	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA
IF SO, DID PERMIT VIOLATIONS OCCUR AS A RESULT?		<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA
SECTION D – SELF-MONITORING			
PERMITTEE SELF-MONITORING MEETS PERMIT REQUIREMENTS. DETAILS:		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> NA (FURTHER EXPLANATION ATTACHED <u>NO</u> ).	
1. SAMPLES TAKEN AT SITE(S) SPECIFIED IN PERMIT.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA
2. LOCATIONS ADEQUATE FOR REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLES.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA
3. FLOW PROPORTIONED SAMPLES OBTAINED WHEN REQUIRED BY PERMIT.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA
4. SAMPLING AND ANALYSES COMPLETED ON PARAMETERS SPECIFIED IN PERMIT.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA
5. SAMPLING AND ANALYSES PERFORMED AT FREQUENCY SPECIFIED IN PERMIT.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA
6. SAMPLE COLLECTION PROCEDURES ADEQUATE		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA
a) SAMPLES REFRIGERATED DURING COMPOSITING.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA
b) PROPER PRESERVATION TECHNIQUES USED.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA
c) CONTAINERS AND SAMPLE HOLDING TIMES CONFORM TO 40 CFR 136.3.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA
7. IF MONITORING AND ANALYSES ARE PERFORMED MORE OFTEN THAN REQUIRED BY PERMIT, ARE THE RESULTS REPORTED IN PERMITTEE'S SELF-MONITORING REPORT?		<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA
SECTION E – FLOW MEASUREMENT			
PERMITTEE FLOW MEASUREMENT MEETS PERMIT REQUIREMENTS. DETAILS:		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> NA (FURTHER EXPLANATION ATTACHED <u>NO</u> ).	
1. PRIMARY FLOW MEASUREMENT DEVICE PROPERLY INSTALLED AND MAINTAINED. TYPE OF DEVICE: Closed pipe		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA
2. FLOW MEASURED AT EACH OUTFALL AS REQUIRED.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA
3. SECONDARY INSTRUMENTS (TOTALIZERS, RECORDERS, ETC.) PROPERLY OPERATED AND MAINTAINED.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA
4. CALIBRATION FREQUENCY ADEQUATE. RECORDS MAINTAINED OF CALIBRATION PROCEDURES. CALIBRATION CHECKS DONE TO ASSURE CONTINUED COMPLIANCE.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA
5. FLOW ENTERING DEVICE WELL DISTRIBUTED ACROSS THE CHANNEL AND FREE OF TURBULENCE.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA
6. HEAD MEASURED AT PROPER LOCATION.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA
7. FLOW MEASUREMENT EQUIPMENT ADEQUATE TO HANDLE EXPECTED RANGE OF FLOW RATES.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA
SECTION F – LABORATORY			
PERMITTEE LABORATORY PROCEDURES MEET PERMIT REQUIREMENTS. DETAILS:		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> NA (FURTHER EXPLANATION ATTACHED <u>NO</u> ).	
1. EPA APPROVED ANALYTICAL PROCEDURES USED (40 CFR 136.3 FOR LIQUIDS, 503.8(b) FOR SLUDGES)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA

New Mexico Water Service Company – Rio Communities						PERMIT NO. NM0027782	
SECTION F - LABORATORY (CONT'D)							
2. IF ALTERNATIVE ANALYTICAL PROCEDURES ARE USED, PROPER APPROVAL HAS BEEN OBTAINED						<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA	
3. SATISFACTORY CALIBRATION AND MAINTENANCE OF INSTRUMENTS AND EQUIPMENT.						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
4. QUALITY CONTROL PROCEDURES ADEQUATE.						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
5. DUPLICATE SAMPLES ARE ANALYZED. <u>10</u> % OF THE TIME.						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
6. SPIKED SAMPLES ARE ANALYZED. <u>   </u> % OF THE TIME.						<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA	
7. COMMERCIAL LABORATORY USED.						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA	
LAB NAME		Hall Environmental Analysis Laboratory, Inc			Sage Environmental Consulting		
LAB ADDRESS		4901 Hawkins, NE; Albuquerque, NM 87109			832 NW 67 <sup>th</sup> Street; Oklahoma City, OK 73116		
PARAMETERS PERFORMED		BOD; TSS; E. coli			Biomonitoring		
SECTION G - EFFLUENT/RECEIVING WATERS OBSERVATIONS. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> NA (FURTHER EXPLANATION ATTACHED <u>NO</u> ).							
OUTFALL NO.	OIL SHEEN	GREASE	TURBIDITY	VISIBLE FOAM	FLOAT SOL.	COLOR	OTHER
001	NONE	NONE	SOME	NONE	NONE	MUDDY	
RECEIVING WATER OBSERVATIONS: The Spring run off continues and the Rio Grande at discharge 001 is extremely high and turbid.							
SECTION H - SLUDGE DISPOSAL							
SLUDGE DISPOSAL MEETS PERMIT REQUIREMENTS. DETAILS:				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> NA (FURTHER EXPLANATION ATTACHED <u>NO</u> ).			
1. SLUDGE MANAGEMENT ADEQUATE TO MAINTAIN EFFLUENT QUALITY.				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> NA			
2. SLUDGE RECORDS MAINTAINED AS REQUIRED BY 40 CFR 503.				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> NA			
3. FOR LAND APPLIED SLUDGE, TYPE OF LAND APPLIED TO: <u>Surface Disposal Site</u> (e.g., FOREST, AGRICULTURAL, PUBLIC CONTACT SITE)							
SECTION I - SAMPLING INSPECTION PROCEDURES (FURTHER EXPLANATION ATTACHED <u>   </u> ).							
1. SAMPLES OBTAINED THIS INSPECTION.				<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA			
2. TYPE OF SAMPLE OBTAINED							
GRAB		COMPOSITE SAMPLE		METHOD		FREQUENCY	
3. SAMPLES PRESERVED.				<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA			
4. FLOW PROPORTIONED SAMPLES OBTAINED.				<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA			
5. SAMPLE OBTAINED FROM FACILITY'S SAMPLING DEVICE.				<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA			
6. SAMPLE REPRESENTATIVE OF VOLUME AND MATURE OF DISCHARGE.				<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA			
7. SAMPLE SPLIT WITH PERMITTEE.				<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA			
8. CHAIN-OF-CUSTODY PROCEDURES EMPLOYED.				<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA			
9. SAMPLES COLLECTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PERMIT.				<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> NA			

**Compliance Evaluation Inspection  
New Mexico Water Service Company  
Rio Communities Wastewater Treatment Facility  
NPDES permit No. NM0027782  
Inspection Date: June 4, 2019**

## **INTRODUCTION**

A Compliance Evaluation Inspection (CEI) was conducted at the Rio Communities Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) on June 4, 2019 by Sandra Gabaldón and Daniel Valenta of the State of New Mexico Environment Department (NMED), Surface Water Quality Bureau (SWQB). This facility is a private domestic wastewater treatment facility classified under the federal Clean Water Act (CWA), Section 402 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program and is assigned NPDES permit number NM0027782. The facility design flow is 0.3 million gallons per day (MGD).

The Rio Communities discharges into the Rio Grande Basin in Segment 20.6.4.105 (*NMAC State of New Mexico Standards for Interstate and Intrastate Surface Waters*). Designated uses include: Irrigation, marginal warmwater aquatic life, livestock watering, public water supply, wildlife habitat and primary contact.

The inspectors arrived at Rio Communities at 1140 hours and conducted an entrance interview with Mr. Byron Peters, Certified Operator. The inspector made introductions, presented her credentials and discussed the purpose of the inspection with Mr. Peters. An exit meeting was held with Mr. Peters at the facility at approximately 1300 hours. Ms. Gabaldón explained to Mr. Peters the preliminary findings of the inspection and requested records for review.

The NMED performs a specific number of CEI's annually for the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The purpose of this inspection is to provide the USEPA with information to evaluate the permittee's compliance with their NPDES permit. The enclosed inspection report is based on verbal information supplied by the permittee's representatives, observations made by Ms. Gabaldón, and a review of records maintained by the permittee, commercial laboratory, and/or NMED. Findings of the inspection are detailed in the attached EPA form 3560-3 and in the narrative further explanations section of the report.

## **TREATMENT SCHEME**

The Rio Communities WWTP serves a population of approximately 2000. Currently, the treatment plant design flow is 0.3 MGD. Wastewater influent enters the facility via three lift stations. It proceeds through a barscreen and enters a grit chamber. Debris from the headworks is collected into an on-site dumpster and disposed of at the landfill.

Wastewater then enters a wet well with two screw pumps and two submersible pumps. Next, the wastewater enters the aeration basin where it then proceeds to the clarifier. The effluent is disinfected prior to discharge by ultraviolet lights.

### **SLUDGE MANAGEMENT**

Waste activated sludge (WAS) is sent to the sludge holding basin on a daily basis and then sent to a centrifuge for removal of decant. The sludge is then placed into a dumpster and is later transported to the landfill for final disposal. The decant from the sludge is sent back to the headworks for further treatment.

**Compliance Evaluation Inspection  
Rio Communities  
NPDES Permit No. NM0027782  
Inspection Date: June 4, 2019**

**FURTHER EXPLANATIONS:**

Note: The sections are arranged according to the format of the enclosed EPA inspection checklist (Form 3560-3), rather than being ranked in order of importance.

**Section C – Operations and Maintenance – Overall Rating of “Marginal”**

In Part III.C.3, Proper Operation and Maintenance:

- a. The Permittee shall at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances) which are installed or used by the permittee as efficiently as possible and in a manner which will minimize upsets and discharges of excessive pollutants and will achieve compliance with the conditions of this permit. Proper operation and maintenance also include adequate laboratory controls and appropriate quality assurance procedures. This provision requires the operation of backup or auxiliary facilities or similar systems which are installed by a permittee only when the operation is necessary to achieve compliance with the conditions of this permit.*
- b. The permittee shall provide adequate staff which is duly qualified to carry out operation, maintenance and testing functions required to insure compliance with the conditions of this permit.*

**Findings** for Operations and Maintenance:

Facility preventive maintenance directly affects the ability of the facility to run efficiently and to comply with its NPDES permit.

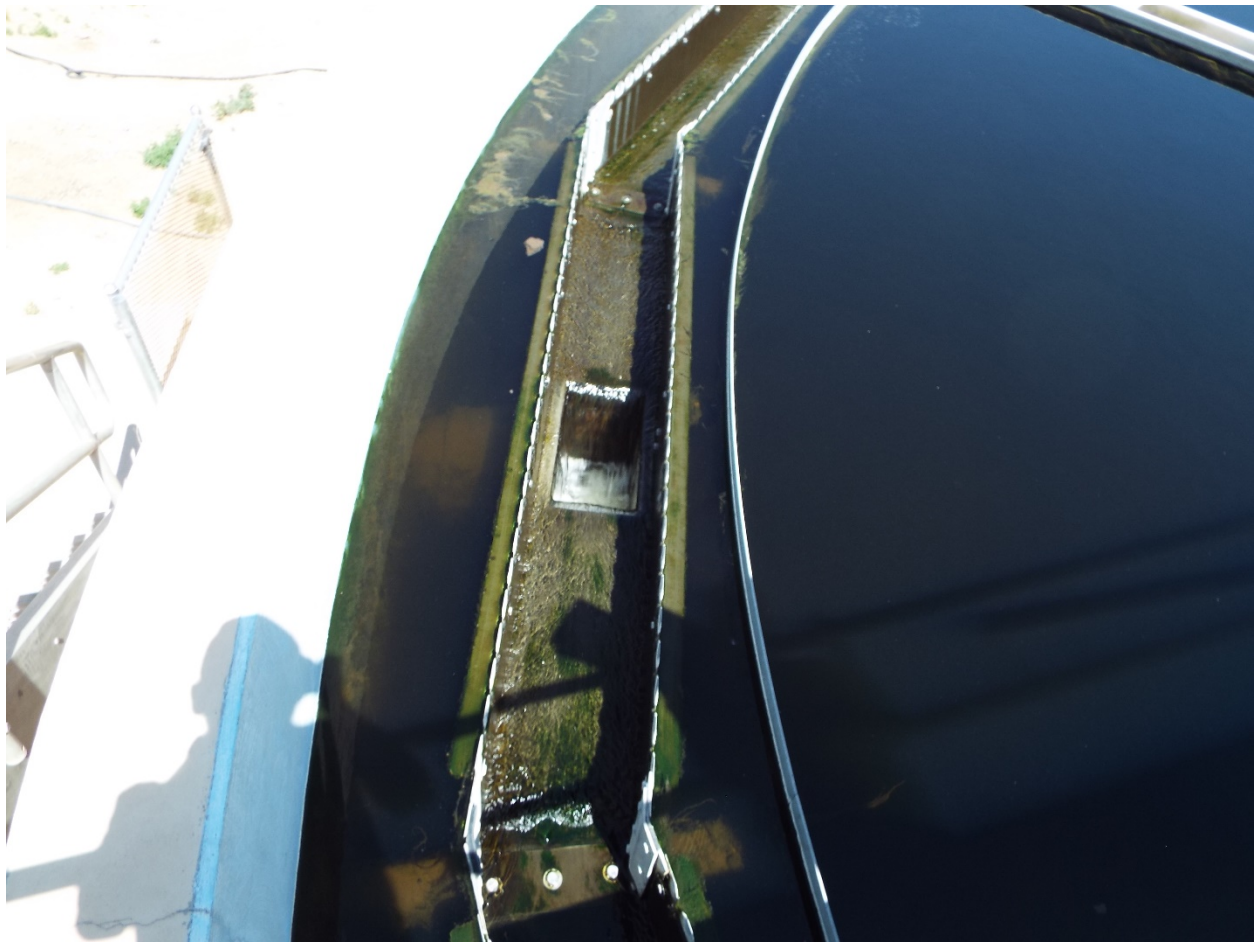
Preventive Maintenance planning and scheduling are essential to keep the plant in compliance with this permit and to maintain the useful life of equipment.

On this day, it was apparent that the operator had not maintained the clarifier, see photo #1, 2.

The ultraviolet channel was also in need of some maintenance, see photo #3, 4.

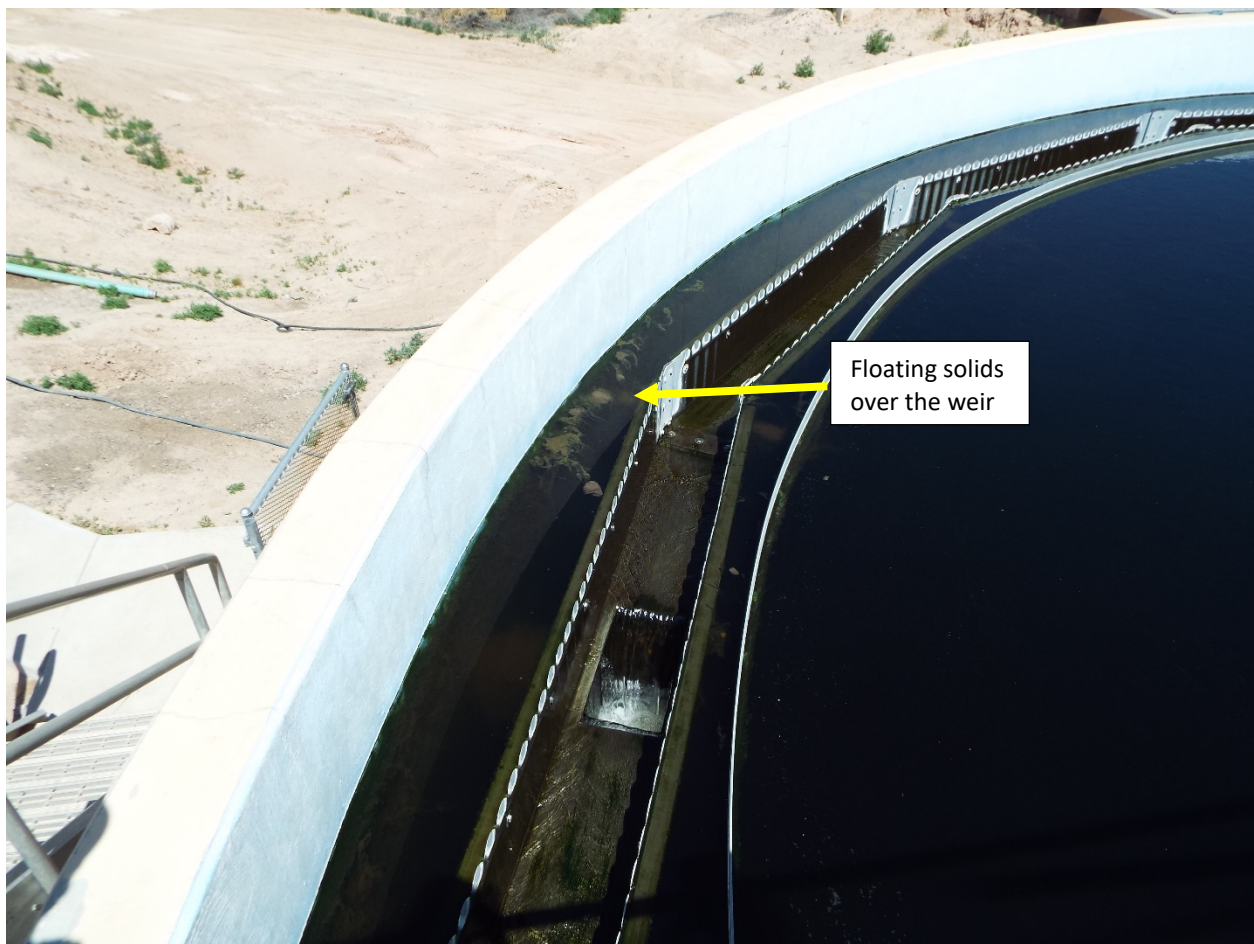
**NMED/SWQB**  
**Official Photograph Log**  
**Photo # 1**

New Mexico Water Service Company / Rio Communities Wastewater Treatment Facility	
City/County: Tome / Valencia	State: New Mexico
Location: Rio Communities	
Subject: Clarifier	



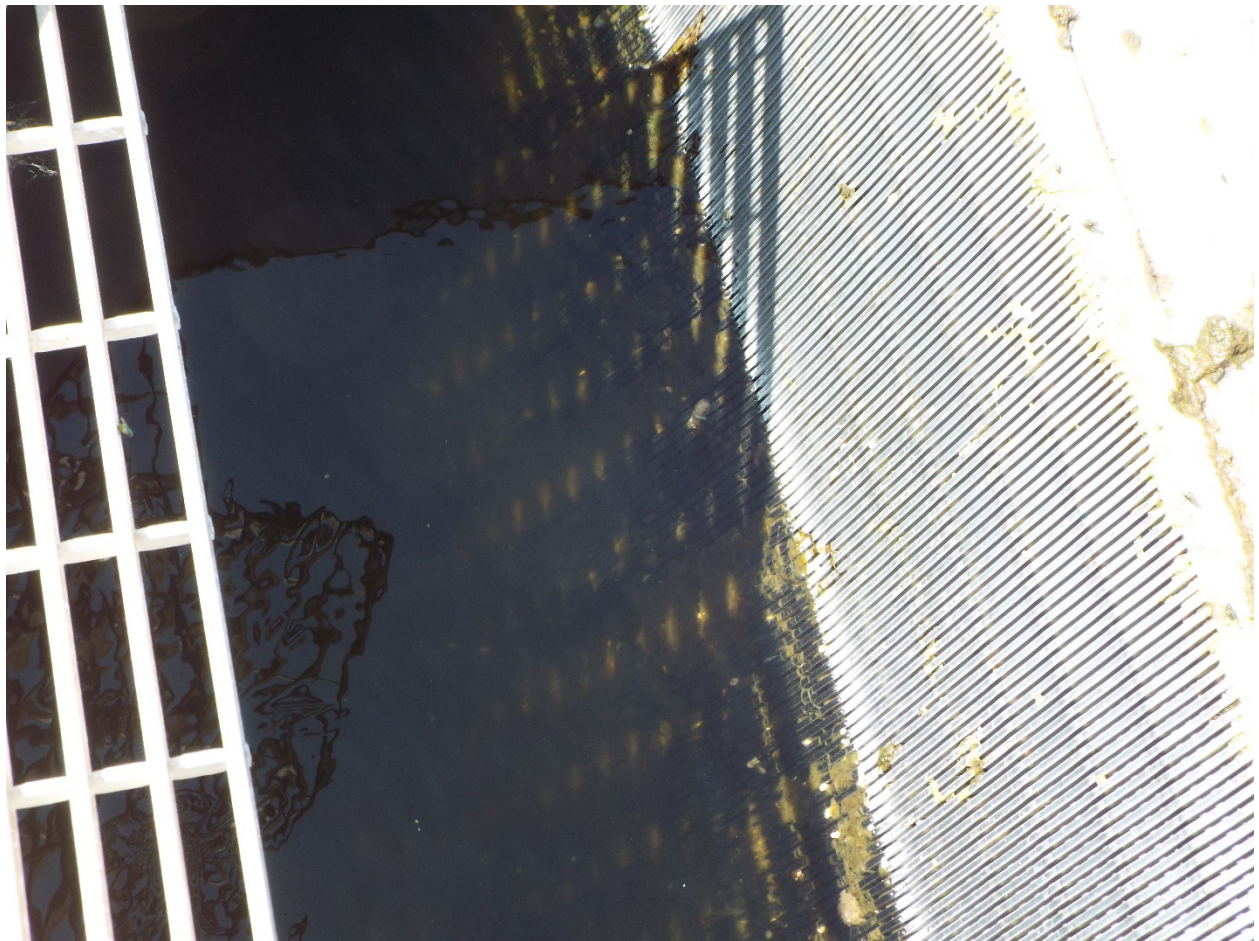
**NMED/SWQB**  
**Official Photograph Log**  
**Photo # 2**

New Mexico Water Service Company / Rio Communities Wastewater Treatment Facility	
City/County: Tome / Valencia	State: New Mexico
Location: Rio Communities	
Subject: Clarifier	



**NMED/SWQB**  
**Official Photograph Log**  
**Photo # 3**

New Mexico Water Service Company / Rio Communities Wastewater Treatment Facility	
City/County: Tome / Valencia	State: New Mexico
Location: Rio Communities	
Subject: Ultraviolet Channel	



**NMED/SWQB**  
**Official Photograph Log**  
**Photo # 4**

New Mexico Water Service Company / Rio Communities Wastewater Treatment Facility	
City/County: Tome / Valencia	State: New Mexico
Location: Rio Communities	
Subject: Ultraviolet Channel	

